

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Keisuke KATAOKA et al.

Serial No.: 10/721,788

Filing Date: November 26, 2003

For: MANAGEMENT METHOD,
MANAGEMENT TERMINAL, AND
PROGRAM FOR MANAGING
REPRESENTATIVES IN E-COMMERCE

Examiner: A. K. Robinson Boyce

Group Art Unit: 3628

Confirmation No. 4142

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98**

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. Copies of foreign documents and non-patent literature are submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

The documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b were cited in a Japanese Office Action mailed on August 7, 2007, directed to a counterpart foreign application and have not been previously cited. A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) follows:

I hereby certify that each item of information was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Concerning a brief explanation of relevancy of the teachings of the cited prior art references to the present invention, Applicants desire to substitute it with the comments of the Japanese Examiner indicated in the Office Action in accordance with MPEP §609 A(3). A translation of the Japanese Office Action is available to the USPTO through the Dossier Access System. Should the translation be unavailable, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned to assure that appropriate information is available for consideration.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and the appropriate fee is submitted herewith.

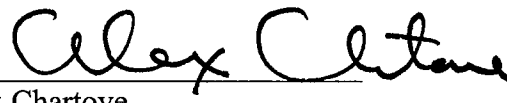
Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing (116692004800).

Dated: November 7, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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